

IN THE CLAIMS

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, the following LISTING OF CLAIMS identifies the claims as "original", "currently amended", "cancelled", "withdrawn", "new" "previously presented", or "not entered" as the case may be. In accordance with the Rules, the text of cancelled and not entered claims is not presented.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of adding an event source to a transaction processing system having a workflow server engine comprising:
 - defining the event source in a workflow database;
 - creating at least one executable function which creates a data structure that receives events coming from the event source and that triggers business rule responses to the events; and
 - creating a workflow to be executed on the workflow server engine as a portion of a business rule response and creating a conditional event rule associated with the workflow, said workflow triggered by the executable function in response to receipt of an event from the event source and configured to return a result to the event source via a callback to enable connection of data structures in the event of workflow failure.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the event definition includes an event id.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the created workflow is associated with the event id so that the created workflow is executed in response to any event having the event id.
4. (Cancelled).
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the event definition includes a list of parameters associated with the event.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one executable function is comprised of a dynamic link library.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one executable function is designed to send an event to the workflow server engine.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the event source is added without changing the workflow server engine.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising creating at least one rule for associating an event from the added event source with the workflow.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9 1 further comprising preventing changes to the workflow database when the changes are to a workflow that is in use by the workflow server engine wherein the rule includes a logic expression.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the event definition includes at least one parameter, and wherein the created at least one rule includes the use of the at least one parameter.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a plurality of events are defined in the workflow database, the method further comprising categorizing the events into a plurality of event types.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein each of the workflow server engine handles each of the event types in different ways maintains a sorted list of currently loaded event-to-workflow rule sets and searches the sorted list in order upon receiving a workflow event.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of adding a new subsystem to a workflow server engine having a plurality of subsystems for providing events to the workflow server engine, the method comprising:

defining an event which will be generated by the new subsystem:

creating a dynamic link library for creating a data structure that receives the defined event and that triggers a business rule response to the defined event; and

associating the defined event with a workflow providing the business rule response so that the associated workflow is executed on the workflow server engine, said workflow triggered by the dynamic link library in response to receipt of an event from the new subsystem and configured to return a result to the new subsystem via a callback to enable correction of data structures in the event of workflow failure.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the dynamic link library creates a data structure for the defined event.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein defining the event further comprises assigning an event id to the event.

17. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein defining the event further comprises associating a plurality of parameters to the event.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the plurality of subsystems also have a plurality of associated events.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising exchanging events between different subsystems during the execution of the workflow.

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for executing a transaction task within a transaction processing system comprising:

a plurality of event providers for providing a source of events to the transaction processing system;

a database with a workflow server application program interface that stores information relating to the events provided by the event providers and that triggers a business rule response to the events;

a workflow server engine for executing workflows providing the business rule responses, said workflows triggered in response to receipt of events from the plurality of event providers and configured to return a result to the event source via a callback to enable connection of data structure in the event of workflow failure; and

a workflow editor for creating and editing workflows to be executed on the workflow server engine.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, further comprising:
a new event provider;

a dynamic link library associated with the new event provider for allowing the new event provider to provide events to the workflow server engine.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the dynamic link library allows the new event provider to provide events to the workflow server engine without changing the workflow server engine.

23. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the transaction processing system collects step execution information.

24. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the collected information includes information relating to the number of times a branch was executed by the workflow server engine.

25. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the collected information includes information relating to the step execution time for at least one step executed by the workflow server engine.

26. (Currently Amended) A workflow execution system comprising:

a workflow server engine adapted to execute workflow on the workflow server engine in response to an event from an event source:

a database server that receives the event and that triggers the workflow server engine to execute workflow to provide a business rule response to the event upon receipt of the event and to provide a result to the event source via a callback to enable correction of data structures in the event of workflow failure;

a plurality of subsystems for providing the events to the workflow server engine; and wherein components of the workflow server engine are standards-based components.

27. (Original) The system as in claim 26, wherein the components are comprised of ActiveX controls.

28-49. (Cancelled).